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untary, as in the Hague Convention. The Secretary of State first called public attention to this principle in the notable address which he delivered at the Interparliamentary Conference in London about seven years ago, and he has frequently in subsequent speeches made reference to the potentiality of such an agreement between nations.

Mr. Bryan's plan seems further to contemplate the attempt, at an early date, either by direct negotiation or through an international conference, to secure some sort of an understanding among the military and naval powers for an arrest of army and navy increase and a reduction of the present overgrown and distressingly burdensome establishments. Things which have recently been said in European capitals, especially in London and Berlin, give hope that even in this direction a well directed effort on the part of our government may not be without almost immediate practical results. At any rate, the international situation in this regard is so serious as to demand an immediate attempt to relieve it, and we very much hope that the Administration will unhesitatingly and courageously take the step which it is loudly hinted is in contemplation. There is reason to believe that such a course, while it would be stubbornly resisted by a few, whom it is needless to specify, would meet with the enthusiastic and overwhelming support of the great masses of the people.

### The St. Louis Peace Congress.

Before this number of the ADVOCATE OF PEACE reaches our readers the Fourth American Peace Congress will have finished its labors at St. Louis. On the eve of the meeting the prospects are flattering for a very large and influential Congress. Many prominent leaders in the Peace Movement from different sections of the nation will be present, among whom will be Secretary Bryan, Senator Burton, Andrew Carnegie, Representative Richard Bartholdt, Edwin D. Mead, Hon. Charles W. Fairbanks, Hon. P. P. Claxton, President Charles F. Thwing, President S. C. Mitchell, Dr. David Starr Jordan, Dr. Jenkin Lloyd Jones, Hon. John Barrett, Prof. P. V. N. Myers, Justice William Renwick Riddell, of Canada, and of course many of the leading workers of the American Peace Society, its constituent branches, and other affiliated organizations. We shall expect to give in our June issue an extended account of the Congress, including some of the addresses delivered.

### Editorial Notes.

**Alfred Noyes.** While on his recent lecture tour in this country, Mr. Alfred Noyes, the English poet, in an address before the Ethical Society of Philadelphia, declared that America alone can solve the armament problem. "Each nation is at present maintaining a great army and navy because its neighbor is doing so. The future lies with America. Let

her lift the sublime torch of peace above the world and the nations of Europe will turn their eyes to it. To America will go the homage and reverence of all ages." In his lecture on "The Great Green Table," delivered in many cities, and through the kindness of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Ramsay heard at the Fairmont Seminary, Washington, D. C., by an exceptionally fine audience, Mr. Noyes described the system of war preparation prevailing in Europe as "a game of half-witted children, a stupendous modern financial gamble, a mathematical problem of slaughter, a thing absolutely without the faith of the people." "Seated about the Great Green Table are the nations of the world spending hundreds of millions of dollars on a dead thing, while their peasantries starve." "Today war is promoted mainly by the greed of land. The present system is against nature. It is an anomaly which will end either in disaster or in the final establishment of permanent peace." If the United States could only get an immediate sense of its mission to the world in this matter, what might not happen!

#### War Will be Avoided.

In submitting the government's increased army and tax bills on April 7, the German Imperial Chancellor expressed his belief that a European conflagration would in all probability be avoided. He had made special efforts since assuming office to cultivate good relations with Russia, and believed the Russian ruler and ministers reciprocated his efforts. The French nation, he believed, was not striving for war, and the present French cabinet was peaceful. But the vigor with which his excellency pushed the new military scheme and the insinuations which he threw at both the French and the Pan-Slavists indicated that these conciliatory expressions were very superficial, and that at heart he believed that there was grave danger of war at an early date. The French and the Pan-Slavists were not slow to discover his real sentiments, and so the armament fever, and one might also say the danger of war, was intensified all over the continent. Winston Churchill's proposal in the British House of Commons that the building of new war armament be stopped for a year stands little chance of getting a hearing under such circumstances.

#### Intercollegiate Peace Association.

The first oratorical contest of the Intercollegiate Peace Association was held in 1907, Ohio and Indiana alone participating. At the contest in 1911, in connection with the Third American Peace Congress, seven States participated. Last year eleven States held oratorical contests, and this year there are sixteen States participating in these contests. With the increase in the number of States it has been necessary to organize the States into groups. Last year there were two groups and this year

they have been organized into three groups—the Eastern Central, and Western. The contestants in these groups have already won the first prize in their respective States. Those who win the first place in the group contests compete in a national contest at Lake Mohonk at the time of the Lake Mohonk Conference. There will be three contestants and three prizes at Lake Mohonk this year. The prizes will be \$100, \$75, and \$50 and will be given by the Misses Seabury. Money prizes are not given in the group contests, but the Business Men's League of St. Louis has kindly offered a first of \$100 for the contest at St. Louis. The State prizes are usually \$75 and \$50, but through the generosity of Mrs. Elmer Black they are much larger in New York State. The final contest will be held at Lake Mohonk May 16. About 100 colleges and universities in the sixteen States have participated in these contests and about 300 orations have been written.

**The Treaty of Ghent Centenary.** The American Committee for the Celebration of the One Hundredth Anniversary of Peace among English-speaking peoples are to give a banquet to the British delegates on the occasion of the International Conference to adopt a definite program for the celebration of the Centenary of the Treaty of Ghent Friday evening, May 9, at the Hotel Astor, New York city. The visiting foreign guests of honor will be: The Hon. Emile Braun, Burgomeister of Ghent, Belgium; Lord Weardale, Rt. Hon. Earl Stanhope, Lord Cheylesmore, K. C. V. O.; Rt. Hon. Sir Herbert Maxwell, P. C.; Hon. Sir Arthur Lawley, G. C. I. E.; Hon. Charles Thomas Mills, M. P.; Hon. Neil Primrose, M. P.; Arthur Shirely Benn, Esq., M. P.; Moreton Frewen, Esq., M. P.; H. S. Perris, Esq., M. A., Great Britain; Sir Edward Walker, C. V. O., LL. D.; Hon. Sir Alexandre Lacoste, P. C., LL. D.; Major Charles Frederick Hamilton, Francis Lewis, Esq., Dominion of Canada; Rt. Hon. Sir Edward Morris, P. C., LL. D., Premier of Newfoundland; Rt. Hon. Sir George Houston Reid, P. C., G. C. M. G., High Commissioner for Australia. The result of the conference of these foreign committeemen with the leaders of the American Committee is expected to be the fixing of the general lines of the program for the celebration two years hence.

**The Carnegie Endowment.** The trustees of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace held their annual meeting in Washington, D. C., on April 18. They voted, as reported in the statement given to the press, appropriations for the coming year for the carrying on of the different lines of the Endowment's work as follows: Administration, \$50,930; for the work of the Department of Intercourse and Educa-

tion, \$213,200; for the Department of Economics and History, \$136,000; for the Department of International Law, \$113,950; for emergencies, \$50,000. The total amount appropriated was \$564,080. The following resolution was adopted, expressing what will be the policy of the Endowment hereafter in reference to organizations aided:

"Whereas, it is not the policy of the Endowment to substitute its action for the interest and activity of any other organization in the cause of peace,

"Resolved, That whenever it appears that the allotment of money by the Endowment to any other organization constitutes an undue proportion of the income of such organization, the allotment shall be gradually reduced."

It is encouraging to see that such a large portion of the amount appropriated is to go for the work of the Department of Intercourse and Education. This department is contributing to the work of the American Peace Society, the Association for International Conciliation, the International Peace Bureau at Berne, the Carnegie European Bureau in Paris, and is doing much also to promote international visits and lectures and the entertainment of distinguished visitors from abroad.

### Among the Peace Organizations.

Through the interest of Mr. E. A. Boostrom and Mr. Victor Wilson, a peace meeting was organized in Stromsburg, Nebraska, on Friday, April 11. It was addressed by Arthur L. Weatherly, secretary of the Nebraska Peace Society, on "The Curse of Militarism." Five new members were obtained. The people present at the meeting were astounded at the enormous cost of preparations for war. It is evident that a propaganda of education in regard to this matter will awaken a new interest in the peace movement.

The Council of the Interparliamentary Union, at its meeting at Brussels on March 18, adopted the following resolution:

"The Council of the Interparliamentary Union expresses its warmest and most sympathetic interest in the manifestations which are being organized between Great Britain and the United States of America to commemorate the signing of the treaty of Ghent, which has been faithfully observed between the two countries, so long hostile to each other, but today united by a long-tried friendship of one hundred years. The Council feels that this great example of political wisdom cannot be too highly recommended to the consideration and admiration of the civilized world."

The Pennsylvania Arbitration and Peace Society are busy preparing literature for the schools of Pennsylvania to aid in their observance of Peace Day. They are preparing an exhibit to be displayed at the annual Carnival of the Philadelphia Home and School League, by means of which they hope to reach practically every family in Philadelphia. They are addressing one thousand ministers, asking them to preach the Peace Message on May